

REMARKS

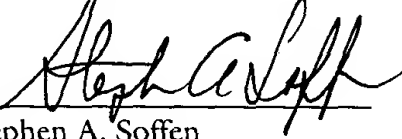
In the Advisory Action dated August 1, 2003, the Examiner notes that “Kelly clearly discloses in column 6, lines 25-36, that the hydrotreater effluent may be treated to remove hydrogen sulfide and the like and that, in this case, the hydrocracker is operated at substantially reduced temperatures.” (Advisory Action at 2). The Examiner then concludes that “[t]his teaching [Kelley] clearly discloses the cooling of the hydrotreated effluent.” (Advisory Action at 2).

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner’s position that the statement in Kelley that the hydrocracker is “operated at substantially reduced temperatures” meets the step of “cooling the hydrotreated effluent” of the claimed invention. Applicant has carefully reviewed the Kelley reference and finds no support for this assertion. The term “operated at substantially reduced temperatures” simply denotes that the hydrocracker 12 may be operated at lower temperatures, as part of the “[m]any variations in the . . . processing scheme” contemplated by Kelley. (Kelley at col. 6, lines 25-36). The term “operated at substantially reduced temperatures” of Kelley does not disclose or suggest the active step of “cooling the hydrotreated effluent,” as specifically recited in independent claim 1 of the present application.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

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Respectfully submitted,

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